

Publisher Traps Tax Agents

By Drew Pearson

When the cause of the great Northeastern power failure was discovered, faces inside the Federal Power Commission turned red enough to be seen in a blackout.

For a tiny relay, scarcely three inches long, had caused a massive failure that the FPC had claimed H-bombs couldn't produce.

In a 425-page report last year, the FPC boasted that the interconnected power system would keep power flowing into damaged areas. Thus a massive failure was deemed unlikely even in the event of a nuclear attack.

Yet it was precisely this interconnected system which produced the chain reaction that blacked out most of the Northeast from Canada to New York City.

"Today," declared the FPC report, "an interconnected group of power systems covering 39 Central and Eastern states and two Canadian provinces are inter-tied sufficiently to enable their 165,000,000 kilowatts of electrical generation to operate in parallel"

"The greater interconnection of systems enhances surviv-

ability. More specifically, it decreases the probability that a given service area would be totally without power."

Publisher Sues IRS

How Internal Revenue sleuths tapped wires, this time those of a newspaper publisher, is disclosed in court charges brought by Wilton E. Hall, publisher of the Anderson, S.C., Daily Mail.

Tax sleuths were seen sitting in a car outside of Hall's home for several days, and later two experts on wire tapping, Harold K. Lipset and Ralph H. Bertsche, were brought in on the case and discovered a small radio transmitter attached to the telephone junction box near the Hall residence.

Chief of Police Parker Clamp of Anderson has impounded the radio transmitter, and Hall has filed charges against Internal Revenue.

Champion of Dictators

Jack Vaughn, hard-nosed Assistant Secretary of State, is in for senatorial trouble when he comes back to Washington from the Rio de Janeiro conference.

He has already tangled with Sen. Robert Kennedy (D-N.Y.) in a huffy session in which Vaughn criticized the late

President Kennedy for suspending aid to the Peruvian military government in 1962 and the Dominican military government in 1963. Vaughn put himself on the side of the military dictators.

In Washington, Vaughn is also in for trouble with the chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Latin American Affairs, Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.). The military-minded Assistant Secretary of State has been quoted as saying that it was typical of liberals and leftists not to realize that the only progress made in Latin America is by the military governments.

"Sen. Hickenlooper (R-Iowa) is the only one who understands Latin America," Vaughn was quoted as saying. "He gets out and visits the slums."

"Someone ought to send Vaughn the roll call on housing and slum clearance," grunted Hickenlooper's Democratic colleague from Oregon. Morse referred to the fact that Hickenlooper has voted against almost every slum clearance and public housing bill to come before the Senate.

Dinner for Princess

It was surprising how many people qualified as "young" at the White House party for Princess Margaret — among them Justice Abe Fortas of the Supreme Court, aged 55, and Secretary of Defense Mc-

Namara, aged 49 . . . President Johnson did what former Presidents Truman and Eisenhower did when they entertained royalty — though not JFK. Johnson invited most of his White House staff to attend the Princess Margaret dinner. Kennedy left the staff out to make room for outsiders. Ike invited members of his family and so did Truman . . . On one occasion when Prime Minister Attlee of England had flown across the Atlantic especially to see Truman, HST kept the Prime Minister of England waiting a full day while he, Harry, entertained Gen. David Sarnoff, then head of NBC, who had just given a singing job to daughter Margaret. Attlee was not even included in the White House luncheon.

One Man's Victory

Credit a freshman Congressman, supposed to be seen and not heard, with canceling the Warsaw Pact, an agreement whereby all international airlines are limited to \$8300 damages in case a passenger is killed or injured. Rep. Lester Wolff (D-N.Y.) crusaded to cancel this agreement negotiated before World War II when the airlines weren't making money. One recent award agreed to by American Airlines totaled more than \$900,000 in contrast to the limit that foreign airlines were required by treaty to pay—\$8300.

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